

News Policy Stated

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THE WARTBURG TRUMPET
Saturday, May 1, 1954 — Waverly, Iowa

News coverage. What is it? What does it include and how is it determined?

To a newspaper and its editorial staff the answers to these questions are fundamental and usually go unchallenged. However, student comments on the newspaper poll sheets returned in conve Thursday showed that the student body is not entirely familiar with the policy presently maintained by the TRUMPET.

The primary job of not only a college newspaper, but a news daily as well, must be to comprehensively cover the news field of its own territory.

Balance should be maintained between the sources and one or two fields must not be either consistently overrated or constantly under-played. However, there are certain criteria which every paper sets up to determine the relative value of all events.

First on this list of stipulations is the time element—the proximity of the hour of the occasion to the distribution hour of the publication.

Second, and closely connected to the first, is the question of the number of people that will be affected by the story.

Third—and this may still overrule the previous two items—is the momentousness of the news. How much importance does the subject carry in relation to other stories included in the issue?

These are the questions that an editor must answer for every story that comes under his pencil. Therefore, in a weekly paper it is rather shortsighted to think a previewed event six days away from the printing date should rate above a story that will materialize in less than 24 hours (other things being equal).

In the same light, a meeting that will include only 50 people cannot possibly overshadow an event with an anticipated audience of 1,000. Furthermore, the student body presidential election should not be outrated by some miscellaneous recital.

That's the TRUMPET's policy. Perfect? No. Infallible? No. But it is still the only standard that an editor has to judge news value and give coverage accordingly. He deserves cooperation. Give him your views of his decisions, for your ideas are not only wanted, but needed.

However, try to understand the reasons for the decisions the editor needs to make and form criticisms logically.

—FRG

For 2 Cents I'd...

By Jerry Never

Jim Roever was on his way to Waverly. He was driving along, peacefully listening to his favorite disc jockey.

Then a little black animal with a white stripe down its back jumped onto the road. Jim Roever was a dull thud and the radio played on, appropriately, "I Tout Ta A Purple Cat."

—See Antigone This Week

After looking through the critical analysis of the TRUMPET taken at Thursday's convocation, and after seeing the little bit to lose, I will venture my critical analysis of the critical analysis.

The comments that occurred most frequently were requests for additional news items in the paper. Some students asked some people who aren't the wheels; more foreign news; more space to minor sports and intramurals; more humor, and comments along the same lines.

Good. You agree with us, but so you can share our problem, I'll tell you a secret. We can't even print all of the comments now much less add features. Yes, you guessed it, there just isn't room in four pages.

—See Antigone—

Last year Fred Voss was called from the office of the TRUMPET to review his, others didn't. But for those of you who did, if you'd like to drop him a line, his address is below. He'd appreciate hearing from some of his old friends.

Pvt. Fred W. Voss
U.S. 55431255
Co. D, 164th Inf. Dept.
47th Inf. Div.
Ft. Benning, Ga.

—See Antigone This Week—

For three years I've walked out of the TRUMPET's office. For three years I've stood the jacket on the nurse's door. For three years I've checked at it. Now I'm finaly going to mention it now. I'm tired of it. It makes me want to look at it which often helps. I can't stand to look at it anymore. Since the mechanics seem the joke books, I'll just write some body find a new joke about nurses and post it on the door... please

Footnotes To Faith:

No Substitute For Sound Thinking

By Rev. Robert Giese,
Christianity Sociology Dept.,
Philips Brooks said, "Let us always remember that free thought means the opportunity to think, but not the opportunity not to think."

There is no substitute for personal, sincere, hard thinking if we are concerned about our own daily growth in the Christian faith and life. You have no doubt heard the saying, "The man with whom you were having a long conversation about a subject and situation you thought was very important, a man who thinks it over."

It is this not really why we need to do it? experience the dynamic meaning of

another "after Easter" season? Such moral and spiritual activity will strengthen our Christian convictions. Then we can contribute a quality and a quality of service to ourselves and others that will radiate a kind of light and joy that will be an inspiration to others.

St. Paul certainly had this in mind when he said, "Fix your minds on the things which are both holy and right and pure and beautiful and good."

Thank!

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Results Of Convo Poll Give 'Good' Rating To Trumpet — But Cites Needs, Failures

By Cy Waincott
TRUMPET Staff Writer

Results of a critical analysis survey of the TRUMPET conducted in convocation Thursday show that, although Wartburg students rated their paper a strong "good" classification, they still feel that there is room for improvement.

Following is a complete breakdown of the poll by departments. The figures listed are percentages of the 230 students who returned valid questionnaires.

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